



DEPT. OF TRANSPORTATION

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April 18, 2001

Docket Clerk
U.S. DOT Dockets
Room PL-401
400 Seventh Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20590

RE: FMCSA - 2000 - 7017 - 25
Safety Requirements for Operators of Small Passenger Vans

Dear Sir or Madam:

The Pennsylvania Bus Association, representing in excess of 70 companies providing scheduled line service as well as operators of Tour and Charter bus transportation, strongly support the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) effort to require motor carriers operating commercial motor vehicles designed to transport 9 or more passengers (including the driver) in interstate commerce to comply with the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations (FMCSR), when they are directly compensated for such services, and the transportation of any passenger exceeds 75 miles. This is an important first step in ensuring that passengers in commercial vans have the same safety protections as those in larger commercial vehicles. We respectfully urge FMCSA to finalize and implement the proposed rules quickly.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Eugene W. Zimmerman", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Eugene W. Zimmerman
Executive Director

EWZ:BS